

IN HONOR OF CRISP COUNTY  
SHERIFF DONNIE R. HARALSON

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and outstanding public servant, Crisp County Sheriff Donnie R. Haralson. Sadly, Sheriff Haralson passed away on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 7, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at Cordele First Baptist Church.

Following in his father's footsteps, Sheriff Haralson began his law enforcement career with the Cordele Police Department in 1977. After years of hard work and determination, he became Cordele's Chief of Police. A well-respected member of his community, Sheriff Haralson was reelected to a seventh term as Crisp County Sheriff in 2012, a capacity in which he served dutifully for twenty-seven years.

During his tenure, Sheriff Haralson established local programs that benefitted both the community he served and the inmates in his care, including personal safety classes and an inmate GED program. Sheriff Haralson was influential in obtaining a regional youth detention center in Cordele and also helped to secure inmate labor in the building of a recreation facility, a significant cost-saving initiative.

Sheriff Haralson was actively engaged in his community and served on numerous committees both locally and statewide. As the longest sitting sheriff in Crisp County history, Sheriff Haralson embodied the definition of a public servant through strong leadership, steadfast dedication and unwavering compassion. His years of distinguished service in law enforcement earned him the Governor's Public Safety Award in 2000 and Georgia's 2010 Sheriff of the Year distinction.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Sheriff Haralson is undoubtedly great because of his dedication and service to the community that he loved so dearly. As a lifelong resident of Crisp County, Sheriff Haralson's legacy will live on for years to come in the minds and hearts of all those whose lives he touched in Southwest Georgia.

Sheriff Haralson is survived by his wife, Peggy; daughters, Amanda and Crystal; grandsons, Thomas and Eli; sisters, Sharon and Kadron; and his nephew, Cory. He was a longtime member and a Deacon of Cordele First Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Sheriff Donnie Haralson and his legacy of service to Crisp County, Georgia. He loved the people of Crisp County and dedicated his life and career to improving the quality of life for his fellow citizens. He will truly be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2014 I joined President Obama on a trip to

Connecticut to discuss the importance of raising the federal minimum wage and missed several recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"no" on rollcall No. 93, on ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 497;

"no" on rollcall No. 94, on passage of H. Res. 97;

"yes" on rollcall No. 95, on passage of H.R. 938, the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2013;

"yes" on rollcall No. 96, on motion to recommit H.R. 4118 with instructions;

"no" on rollcall No. 97, on passage of H.R. 4118, the SIMPLE Fairness Act;

"yes" on rollcall No. 98, on passage of H.R. 2126, the Better Buildings Act of 2014.

THE INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4110  
"HELPING TO ENCOURAGE REAL  
OPPORTUNITY FOR VETERANS  
TRANSITIONING FROM  
BATTLESPACE TO WORKPLACE  
ACT OF 2014"

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, study after study has documented the difficulties experienced by a majority of men and women transitioning from the Armed Services to the civilian sector.

Veterans regard one of their greatest challenges to be finding a meaningful job even though nearly 90% of them believe they have the general skills needed to land their ideal job such as problem solving, leadership, ethics, and time management and most believe they possess specific marketable skills, such as information technology, health care, mechanical, and aviation.

Some of the major challenges faced by veterans are:

1. Overcoming the difficulty in translating to employers the value of the skills they learned in the military;

2. Competing with candidates who have been in the workforce longer;

3. The perceived reluctance of employers to hire due to concerns about multiple deployments or military training and time commitments of the Reserve Component, and fears of dealing with veterans' disabilities.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 4110, the "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunity for Veterans Transitions from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2014" or "Transitioning HERO Act."

The Transitioning HERO Act addresses these problems by providing strong incentives for employers to hire, retain, and employ veterans in positions that take maximum advantage of their skills and experience.

It does this by providing tax credits for those employers who employ Military Relations Managers (MRM), who will be experts in understanding how military-acquired training translates into useful skills in the civilian labor market.

Military Relations Managers (MRMs) will:

1. work with hiring agencies and within their companies to promote the hiring of transitioning military leaders; and

2. advocate and represent the interests of veterans thoroughly by focusing on placement

of veterans within companies in positions that reflect the breadth of leadership and technical skills obtained and utilized during military service.

My bill also directs the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish, maintain, publicize, and make available to employers a Military Skills Translator Database. This database will assist private sector employers in understanding, applying, and valuing military skills and experiences to the civilian economy.

The tax credit provided under the bill is \$1000 per hired veteran. To be eligible to claim the credit, an employer must employ and utilize a Military Relations Manager.

This important legislation will benefit both veterans and hiring companies, by giving our transitioning veterans the jobs and positions that are appropriate to their invaluable experience and by encouraging companies to examine the application of veterans' acquired skills with quality representation.

Mr. Speaker, Americans want Congress to focus on jobs and economic growth, not more political posturing.

Instead of trying to repeal or undermine the Affordable Care Act for the 50th time, we should be focusing on the real problems of the American people, like extending unemployment insurance and providing training opportunities for the long-term unemployed and helping our veterans transition from the battlespace to the workplace by passing H.R. 4110, the "Transitioning HERO Act."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SEAN P. DUFFY**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, I missed several recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted the following ways: "yea" on rollcall 93; "yea" rollcall 94; "yea" on rollcall 95; "nay" on rollcall 96; "yea" on rollcall 97; "yea" on rollcall 98.

BRITTANY CHICOINE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brittany Chicoine for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brittany Chicoine is a 12th grader at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brittany Chicoine is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brittany Chicoine for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.